THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) India has historical ties of friendship and cooperation with Afghan people. As part of our continuing commitment to further strengthen our relationship, Government has proposed to cooperate with the Afghan Government in reconstruction and rehabilitation in post conflict Afghanistan in various areas. In this context, Government has announced a line of credit of US$ 100 million to be made available to the Afghan Government. The terms and conditions of the line of credit would be finalised in consultation with the Afghan Interim Administration.

Government has taken several measures for developing economic, trade and diplomatic relations with the Afghan Interim Administration. In addition to the line of credit of US$ 100 million, at the Tokyo Ministerial meeting on Reconstruction in Afghanistan, held on 21-22 January, 2002, an amount of US$ 1.5 million was also made available for immediate utilization by the Afghan Government. During the recently concluded visit of H.E Hamid Karzai, the Chairman of the Afghan Interim Administration, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee announced a grant of US$ 10 million for utilization by the Afghan Government. The Government, in consultation with the Afghan Interim Administration has agreed to cooperate in the areas of Education, Health, Information Technology, Public Transport, Energy and Training.

In terms of diplomatic presence, the Government established its liaison office in Kabul on 21st November 2001 and re-established the Embassy with effect from 22nd December, 2001 with the inauguration of the Afghan Interim Administration in Kabul.

Identification of BPL families in H.P.

*104. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the BPL families in Himachal Pradesh to be covered under the targeted PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether all of them have been given special ration cards; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of BPL families identified by the Government of Himachal Pradesh in each district of the State is given below:—

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of BPL families
1	2	3
1.	Bilaspur	18467
2.	Chamba	48059
3.	Hamirpur	21285
4.	Kangra	65595
5.	Kinnaur	2896
6.	Kullu	11778
7.	Lahaul & Spiti	2445
8.	Mandi	43374
9.	Shimla	32408
10.	Sirmour	15195
11.	Solan	18965
12.	Una	17714
	TOTAL	2,98,181

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Families covered under "Antodaya Anna Yojana'

*105. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families which have been covered under the "Antodaya Anna Yojana' till 31st December, 2001, State-wise; and

(b) the quantity of foodgrains distributed to these families under the scheme till the aforesaid date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) 88,26,912 families were covered under the Antodaya Anna Yojana till 31.12.2001. The allocation of foodgrains made in respect of the said families up to the said date was 14,99,474 tonnes as against which the offtake was 12,73,763 tonnes. Statewise details are enclosed in the Statement.